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# LAS VEGAS OPTIC

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CITY EDITION

## NAMUR FALLS BEFORE GERMAN HOSTS

### French Lose 10,000 Men and 150 Field Guns in Luneville Battle

## "NO MATTER WHAT FRANCE'S FATE MAY BE, WE MUST STICK TOGETHER AND OVERTHROW THE GERMANS," ENGLAND TELLS THE RUSSIANS

Berlin, Aug. 25 (by wireless to the Associated Press, by way of Nauen, Germany, and Sayville, L. I.).—An official announcement made public here today says that the city of Namur and five of its fortresses have been captured by the Germans. The bombardment of the four other forts continues and their fall seems imminent.

London, Aug. 25.—In a dispatch from Antwerp the correspondent of the Exchange Telegram company says that German troops had attacked Malines and in the fight which lasted four hours were driven out by the Belgians. The Belgians pursued the Germans in the direction of Vilvorde.

Basel, Switzerland, Aug. 25.—News has reached here that a French force of Turcos, Zouaves and Senagalese, during the fighting in upper Alsace, entered and almost destroyed the towns of Flachslanden, Jagdsdorf and Lutzerath, Brunstatt, Helweiler and Morschweiler. Wounded French soldiers who have crossed the Swiss frontier and are interned here, speak very highly of the bravery of the German troops.

Paris, Aug. 25.—The Journal this afternoon says it has obtained from an authoritative source the news that in a battle fought yesterday an uncle of Emperor William, commanding the imperial guard, was killed.

Nish, Serbia, Aug. 25 (via London).—Serbian troops recaptured Sabac (Shabatz) at 4 o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, August 24, according to an official announcement made today. The Austrians have been thrown back on the other bank of the river Save and every bit of Serbian territory has now been cleared of the enemy. The retreating Austrians devastated Serbian villages and massacred the inhabitants. Sabac is on the river Save, 27 miles west of Belgrade.

London, Aug. 24, 3:52 p. m.—The official war information bureau says: "It is announced that Namur has fallen."

The above dispatch, as indicated, was filed in London at 3:52 o'clock Monday afternoon and received in New York at 6:15 o'clock this (Tuesday) morning. Its transmission was probably delayed by the censor.

The fortifications of Namur and Liege formed the finest examples of the work of the famous Belgian military engineer, General Henri Alexis Brialmont. The forts are nine in number. All are protected by hardened steel domes. The artillery, consisting of modern heavy disappearing guns, is very powerful.

Beyond the bare statement made late yesterday afternoon that it was announced that Namur had fallen, the official war information bureau has issued nothing on the subject.

"We Must Stick Together" The Chronicle editorially says: "The news today is decidedly bad. If the allies' losses have been heavy, we may yet see before long the Germans march on Paris. We do not imagine Namur was taken by a rush. The blunt fact remains that in a really first class battle the French troops occupying a well-entrenched position

### TODAY'S DEVELOPMENTS

Namur, the Belgian fortress, has fallen into German hands, according to the official press bureau in London. Details of the fighting were not given. English newspapers regard the fall as inexplicable.

Berlin dispatches say five of the forts of Namur and the city itself have fallen, and the capture of remaining four forts is imminent.

A reverse to the forces of the allies is generally admitted by the English and French newspapers, which say today: "News is decidedly bad." While plainly expressing chagrin at the failure of their forces they declare the retrograde movement toward the line of strong defensive works near the frontier has been carried out in good order.

It is assumed that the allies are falling back on their first line of defensive works, running from Maubeuge in a southeasterly direction by way of Hirson, Mezieres, Verdun, Montmedy, St. Mihiel, Toul and Epinal, all of which are strong fortresses and are interspersed with smaller works such as Ayevalle, Genicourt, Troyon, Les Paroches, Planville, Glironville and Jovy-Sous-Les-Cotes. Behind these lies another strong line of fortifications from St. Quentin in the north through Loen and Reims to the great entrenched camp at Chalons.

The English newspapers declare that both the English and Russians are determined to "fight to a finish," whatever the outlook may be at present. They say the possession of Namur was vital for Germany and that it "was a fine stroke for the Germans to have rushed the place under the eyes of the allied armies."

In other parts of Belgium fighting is still in progress and a report from Ostend says 30,000 Germans have attacked Malines, 13 miles from Antwerp. Charleroi has also been the scene of hot fighting, this time between the French and German troops, and a fresh encounter is believed to have begun there today.

Twenty-five thousand Germans have been surrounded between Courtrai and Anzeghem, according to an Ostend dispatch to the London Daily Express.

Brussels has been left by the main body of German troops, who have proceeded on their way to the front.

Russian reports relate the advance of the Russian army in eastern Prussia. Russian officers, however, caution against feeling too great elation over the preliminary successes, pointing out that the German territory about the Vistula is strongly fortified along the line of the Russian forward march.

Newspaper dispatches assert that the Austrian fortified port of Cattaro Dalmatia has been destroyed by the allied fleets.

Dispatches from the Serbian provisional capital Nish record the victorious offensive movement of the Servians and Montenegrins against the Austrians, who are said to have suffered severely.

A Swiss business man reports the garrison of Strassburg to have sustained an appalling total of casualties at Schirmeck, where 5,500 Germans went into the engagement and only 1,800 returned.

A German dirigible balloon which had flown over Antwerp yesterday was brought down by the Belgian artillery today and 15 of the occupants taken prisoners, according to a newspaper dispatch. Another telegram says bombs dropped from the balloon caused several deaths and one of the missiles struck a hospital, which, however, was occupied only by the medical and nursing staffs.

A wireless dispatch from the foreign office in Berlin to the German embassy at Washington records a severe defeat of the French troops by the Germans in a battle which raged August 17 to 21, and in the course of which more than 150 field guns and 10,000 prisoners were captured. It says Luneville was taken by the Germans and that the army of General Joffre, the French commander in chief, was broken up, making probable a concentric advance of all the German army towards Paris. A wireless dispatch adds that the Duke of Wurtemberg's army, marching through Belgium, had completely crushed the advancing French army and captured many guns, flags and prisoners, among whom were several generals, while another German command defeated an English cavalry brigade to the west of the river Meuse.

of singular strength were driven out by the Germans after not more than two days' fighting. This speaks volumes for the power of the German attack.

"England and Russia must stubbornly resolve that come what may to France, they will never surrender to Germany but will stick to her as they stuck to Napoleon, until they pull her down. As long as we hold the sea we can not ourselves be vitally struck."

The Times military expert says it is too early to say that the line of the Meuse south of Mezieres must be abandoned, but the outlook is not favorable and the development of the situation in the next few days will be watched with anxiety. He continues: "There is certainly some feeling

Russian attack on the Prussian frontier.

Germans Move Forward Paris, Aug. 25.—The following official announcement was made here today:

"The German offensive movement in the north, which was stopped yesterday, appears today to have been resumed. The enemy, however, is being held back by a French army acting in conjunction with an English army and a Belgian army."

"The armies of the allies surprised the enemy and drove back their advance detachments. The allies have gone beyond Malines. The Belgian army came from Antwerp."

"In Lorraine after the counter attacks of yesterday the right of the French forces withdrew to the river Mortagne which is a continuation of the Meurthe, from Luneville to Nancy. In Alsace, French troops repulsed a number of German attacks directed against Colmar."

"The report of the recapture of Muelhausen by the Germans is without foundation. Moreover, the theater of operations in Alsace is becoming of secondary importance."

Fighting at Ostend

London, Aug. 25.—A dispatch from Ostend to the Evening News says there is fierce fighting between the Belgian gendarmes and the German cavalry in the outskirts of the city. Wounded are being brought in.

The dispatch adds that the encounter was between a detachment of German cavalrymen and 200 gendarmes. It appears that the Germans, early in the morning, while making their way from Shakerke to Ostend, came into contact with the guards in the vicinity of Leffinchae, some three miles from Ostend.

After a fierce fight the Germans were driven back with the loss of several men and an officer wounded, while the gendarmes lost three killed and several wounded.

Charleroi Fight Described

Paris, Aug. 25.—A traveler who has come to Paris from Charleroi was a witness of part of the fighting at that place. He has related his experiences to a reporter of the Petit Parisien as follows:

"I was at Foreux, 15 miles from Esquelines. From where I was stationed I could see the passing for hours of column after column of German infantry. They were subjected to a veritable hurricane of iron from the French artillery and they went down by the dozen. Nevertheless, more came forward to take the places of the slain."

"At Solere Lechateau I saw a German aeroplane brought down by a shot and I was told that another such machine had met the same fate at Nerles."

Germans Use Foul Tactics

A dispatch to the Havas agency from Ostend, Belgium, says that at Charleroi the German troops obliged ten Belgian miners, who had just come out of a mine with lamps in their hands, to march at the head of their advance. All the miners were killed.

Similar tactics, according to this same authority, were employed at Mont Marchienne, in the province of Painsault, where 200 German troops

### GERMAN CRUELTY DENOUNCED BY BELGIANS

THEY ALLEGE RULES OF CIVILIZED WARFARE WERE VIOLATED

### PEASANTS CLUBBED TO DEATH

THE KAISER'S TROOPS ACCUSED THEM OF HAVING HELPED THE ENEMY

### NEUTRALITY WAS OBSERVED

KING ALBERT, EARLY IN WAR, ORDERED NON-COMBATANTS TO KEEP OUT

London, Aug. 25.—The following announcement was given out today by the official information bureau:

"The Belgian minister in London has made the following statement:

"In spite of solemn assurance of good will and treaty obligations of long standing, Germany has made a savage and utterly unwarranted attack on Belgium. However sore pressed we may be Belgium never will succumb unfairly; she never will stoop to infringe the laws and customs of civilized warfare. She is putting up a brave fight against overwhelming odds. She may be beaten; she may be crushed; but to quote the words of our noble king, she never will be enslaved."

"When German troops invaded our country, the Belgian government issued a public statement which was placarded in every town, village and hamlet, warning all civilians to abstain scrupulously from hostile acts against the troops of the enemies, the Belgian press has daily published similar notices broadcast through the land."

"Nevertheless, the German authorities have issued statements lately containing grave imputations against the attitude of the Belgian civilian population and threatening us at the same time with dire reprisals. These imputations are contrary to the real facts, and as to threats of future vengeance, no menace of odious reprisals on the part of German troops will deter the Belgian government from protesting before the civilized world against the fearful crimes committed wilfully and deliberately by the invading hosts against helpless non-combatants, old men, women and children."

"Long is the list of outrages committed by German troops. The appalling details of these atrocities are vouched for by a committee of inquiry formed by the Belgian minister of justice and presided over by him."

"German cavalry occupying the village of Linamen were attacked by some Belgian infantry and two gendarmes. The German officer was killed by our troops during the fight and subsequently buried. At the request of the Belgian officer in command not one of the civilian population (Continued on Page Four)

lost their way and got into the range of the French army.

The Germans attempted to bombard the Charleroi railroad station from Jevmont St. Antoine. Furthermore, they are reported as having fired on the Charleroi prison, although this building was flying the Red Cross flag. Only one shell exploded. It killed a horse, but without hurting the officer mounted on it.

### CATTARO FORTS DESTROYED BY ALLIES

AUSTRIAN SEAPORT IN THE ADRIATIC AT MERCY OF THE ENEMIES

### COMMANDER WILL SURRENDER

REPORTS LATE TODAY ARE THAT HE IS PARLEYING FOR TERMS

### CUTS OFF PORT OF ENTRY

ITS CAPTURE FIRST MOVE IN ATTEMPT TO BOTTLE UP THE COUNTRY

Rome, Aug. 25, (via London).—A dispatch to the Corrier d'Italia from Anivari, Montenegro, says the fortifications of Cattaro, the Austrian seaport in Dalmatia, on the Adriatic, have been completely destroyed and that the Austrian commander is now parleying for terms of surrender. The bombardment of Cattaro was conducted by a fleet of the allies.

### BELGIUM'S LOSSES REACH BIG TOTAL

DEAD NUMBER 16,000 WHILE THE WOUNDED ARE ESTIMATED AT 50,000

The Hague, Aug. 25 (via London).—A camp for interned Belgians, of whom there are about 2,000 in Holland, now is being constructed at Oudenruid, in Friesland. It is understood here that the Belgian wounded in the fighting against Germany up to the present time number about 50,000. The first casualty list contains the names of 2,000 Belgian dead. Conservative estimates made here place the total of dead at about 16,000.

### Fugitives go to Holland

Maastricht, Holland, Aug. 25 (via London).—Fugitives from Belgium continue to arrive here. Many of them are slightly wounded. The total number of these fugitives is now nearly 7,000 and they are being cared for in sheds. Those who have made their way here during the last few days are mostly from the vicinity of Malines. There has arrived also a large number of Bavarian farmers who consider it is no longer safe to stay on their lands.

### UNITED STATES IS NEUTRAL IN WAR

WILL NOT TAKE SIDES IN THE JAPANESE-GERMAN HOSTILITIES

Washington, Aug. 25.—President Wilson today issued a proclamation declaring the United States neutral in the war between Germany and Japan.

### GLOVE MAKERS STRIKE

Gloversville, N. Y., Aug. 25.—About 1,200 Fulton county glove cutters formally declared a strike this morning, demanding higher wages.

### JAPAN WILL NOT TAKE ANY RISKS

WILL GO ABOUT CAPTURE OF KIAO CHOW WITH CIRCUMSPECTION

### PEOPLE ANXIOUS TO FIGHT

MANY VOLUNTEERS FOR SERVICE IN DANGER ZONE ARE ACCEPTED

### STILL DESIROUS OF PEACE

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ASKS THAT THE WAR IN EUROPE BE STOPPED

Tokio, Aug. 25.—There are many indications in Tokio that Japan is conducting her hostilities against Kiao Chow, the German leased territory in China, with the greatest deliberation and circumspection. She desires to avoid any unnecessary sacrifice of life, and will not risk her warships unnecessarily. It is reported that a number of mines have been seen floating in the waters around Kiao Chow.

A number of Japanese sailors and soldiers have written a petition to their superiors, stating the absurdity with their own blood, in which they asked to be selected to go to the front. The navy department said today it had no knowledge of a reported attack on Tsing Tao by British torpedo boat destroyers.

The Japan Peace association has resolved to send a communication to the International Peace Association, whose headquarters are at Bern, Switzerland, asking this association to labor with the belligerent powers for the speedy restoration of peace.

### Cruiser Protects Shipping

San Francisco, Aug. 25.—The marine correspondent at Tootosh, Wash., of the San Francisco chamber of commerce, telegraphs that the Japanese cruiser Idzumo, which left here last Saturday, passed into the straits of Juan del Fuca apparently bound for the Canadian naval base at Esquimaux.

The appearance of the Idzumo in northern waters was a distinct surprise and not even speculative explanations were forthcoming. It had been supposed that the Idzumo would convoy the Japanese steamship Shin-yo Maru, which sailed Saturday for Japan. A report that the two vessels joined company last night is shown to have been an error.

Apparently the Idzumo will use Esquimaux for a base, and will continue to operate in Canadian and American Pacific waters as a protection for British, Japanese and French shipping.

### WAR CAUSES FAILURE

Des Moines, Ia., Aug. 25.—An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed against the B. A. Lockwood Grain company here today. Assets are given at \$350,000 and liabilities at \$250,000. Contraction of credits, due to the European war and inability to get cars to handle their grain were given as the cause of the suit.

### NEW ELECTION LAWS

Jefferson City, Mo., Aug. 25.—Revision of the election laws of Missouri and radical changes in criminal and civil procedure had strong advocates among the delegates to the democratic state convention scheduled to meet here today to draft a platform for the fall elections.